



*Call for conference papers*

**Social Experiences of Film | Film Experiences of Sociality  
New Approaches in Film-Philosophy**

*14-15 June 2018, New Europe College Institute for Advanced Study (Bucharest)*

**Keynote speakers:**

**Julian Hanich** (Univ. of Groningen, The Netherlands)

Author of *The Audience Effect: On the Collective Cinema Experience* (Edinburgh UP, 2017)

**Rupert Read** (Univ. of East Anglia, United Kingdom)

Author of *Film as Freedom: Ecology and Enlightenment in Cinema* (Routledge, forthcoming)

Attempts at theorizing film have long stressed the potential of this medium to generate new forms of intersubjectivity and of sociality. In early film theoretical accounts like Béla Balázs', for instance, the silent cinema's emphasis on facial and gestural expressivity was praised for bringing about a novel "visibility of man". At the same time, Walter Benjamin noted that film viewing itself engendered novel types of collective awareness, introducing unprecedented means of mass communication. These two aspects of the relation between sociality and film – film as a vehicle for new forms of intersubjectivity and of sociality, on the one hand, and as an object for novel types of collective awareness, on the other – are today regaining attention from philosophers of film employing phenomenological, analytic, or cognitive approaches. The conference aims to re-evaluate and re-examine these issues specifically in view of the recent remediation and relocation of film experience.

Submissions on philosophy of film, social phenomenology, or social epistemology addressing topics such as the following are especially welcome:

- Shared emotions, the sense of "we", or group dynamics of film audiences
- Collective intentionality or understanding mental states in film experience
- Modalities of persuasion, commitment, or activism through film
- Mechanisms of conveying ethical, environmental, or political views via film
- Contemporary film treatments of race, class, sexuality, or gender
- Transformations of the social experience of film due to its remediation and relocation

We invite **abstracts** (max. 500 words, Word format) for 30-minute papers (followed by 20-minute discussions) to be submitted to [film-philosophy2018@nec.ro](mailto:film-philosophy2018@nec.ro)

**Extended submission deadline:** 1 April 2018 (notification of acceptance by 10 April 2018)

**Organized with the support of New Europe College by:**

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